

New Beginnings

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Missionaries on the campus of University of Illinois with Illini Life Christian Fellowship



Fall Semester Fall Retreat & Judges

Hello! We hope this finds you well as the trees begin to change color, the days grow shorter and temperatures cooler.

The fall semester is going great here at Illinois! At the beginning of the month we went away as a church for our annual Fall Retreat. At a camp near Peoria, IL about 50 of us gathered for the weekend. Nick and his co-elders taught through Romans 12 over the course of the retreat, focusing the group on "Thriving, Not Just Surviving Through Being the Body of Christ, Following Christ, and Serving Christ." Some of our students even took Nick up on the challenge to memorize Romans 12 over the course of the weekend!

Fall Retreat has always been a sweet time for our church to break down small group boundaries and allow students even more exposure to our family and the families of our elders and staff team. Watching our kids befriend our students and talk about God is a great joy.

Coming off the Fall Retreat, we carried on with the momentum from outreach and evangelism from the start of the school year and started yet another initiative: "Ask Your Questions." Led by one of our elders, students gather on the main quad inviting their

peers to ask their questions about faith, God, religion, who is Jesus, etc. We ran this daily initiative for a full week and on the final day one of our students who is from China was able to share the Gospel with two new students from China in their native language. Earlier in the week a recent Grad originally from India shared with other students from India about his conversion from Hinduism and Agnostic to Christianity during his time on campus with us. We're working with campus to get another week scheduled to repeat this event.

On Sundays we've begun a 5 week study through the Book of Judges. Nick has had a goal for many years to teach through the overarching story of the Bible every 4 years. This moves us along on that mission after covering Genesis, Exodus and Joshua last school year along with the Gospel of Luke, and the book of Philippians. In our study of Judges we're focusing on God's mercy and deliverance in the chaos and rebellion of Israel, reminding us that God is compassionate and longs to rescue us; Jesus is our clearest picture of that.

Thanks for all you do in prayer, giving and support to make this all possible. The Lord is clearly at work and using Illini Life to make Him known here at Illinois.

Prayer Requests

- Praise God for a wonderful Fall Retreat.
- For another fruitful week of "Ask Your Questions" to come together and favor with the University in scheduling it.
- For God to speak through the book of Judges and point us all to Him as our true deliver.

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Where We Live

